

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 PC-01 SCS-03 RSC-01 /017 W

----- 039481

R 191545Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4195

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0796

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, SF

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICAN VISA PROBLEM

REF: MASERU 1308; STATE 252471; PRETORIA 4973

1. AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED MATTERS CONTAINED REFEELS THIS AFTERNOON WITH SECRETARY FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOURIE POINTING OUT SPECIFICALLY DISCRIMINATION IN CASES OF BLACK AMERICANS WHO WERE RECEIVING RESTRICTED PERIODS OF VISITS IN SOUTH AFRICA AS COMPARED TO OTHER VISA PERMITS. SIMILARLY REFUSAL OF VISAS TO 12 MENNONITE VOLUNTEERS IN BOTSWANA WAS RAISED.

2. IN RAISING SUBJECT, AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA) APPARENTLY TRYING TO REGULARIZE VISA OPERATIONS AND END DISCRIMINATION BUT DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND/OR LOWER ECHELON IN SOME AREAS WERE AT BEST CAUSING CONFUSION AND DIFFICULTIES.

3. SEC. FOURIE STATED HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT HAD OCCURRED, WAS UPSET BY PROBLEM, WOULD TRY TO CORRECT AS SPEEDILY AS POSSIBLE AND ADVISE US OF PROGRESS.

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4. IT IS OBVIOUS TO ME FROM DISCUSSION REPORTED ABOVE
THAT DFA HAVING DIFFICULTY CARRYING OUT AGREED
UPON VISA PROGRAM. I BELIEVE THAT WITH SOME PATIENCE,
COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING OUR BEST PROMISE OR SOLUTION
LIES IN THE HANDS OF DFA WHICH HOPES TO RID ITSELF OF
THIS PROBLEM.
HURD

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NNN

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